

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 21556 281303Z

43

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NEA-10 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /160 W

----- 109268

R 281200Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 378

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 21556

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

1. GENERAL HIEP, HEAD OF THE TPJMC, SAID IN A NEWS CONFERENCE THIS MORNING (DEC 28) THAT THE GVN HAS MADE PROGRESS TOWARD AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS BEFORE TET. HIEP SAID HE HAD BEEN CONDUCTING SECRET NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE VIET CONG DURING THE PAST MONTH AND THAT HE IS NOW OPTIMISTIC THAT A FULL EXCHANGE OF POWS CAN BE ACHIEVED BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR BEGINS ON JANUARY 23.

2. COMMENT: PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWED MEETING WITH PRG'S GENERAL TUAN HELD AT CAMP DAVIS AFTERNOON OF 27TH AT HIEP'S INITIATIVE. RESUMPTION OF RELEASE OF CIVILIAN DETAINEES AND POWS (SUSPENDED LAST JULY) WAS PRINCIPAL SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE DISCUSSED. THIS MORNING, WHILE EMPHASIZING THAT GVN WAS TAKING THE INITIATIVE, HIEP AVOIDED CRITICIZING PRG ON THIS SUBJECT AND SPOKE OF THE REASONABLE TONE OF THE DISCUSSION. HE ALSO AVOIDED DETAILS, WHILE STRESSING HIS OPTIMISM AND CAUTIONING PRESS TO TREAT ISSUE CAREFULLY TO AVOID ENDANGERING PROGRESS. IN AFTERNOON, HIEP TELEPHONED TUAN TO REASSURE HIM THAT HE HAD SPOKEN ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS AND IN UP-BEAT, OPTIMISTIC VEIN.

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MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973123/aaaaabpt.tel
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINT, VS, TPJMC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005